

*Change that puts you first.*

ONTARIO'S NEW DEMOCRATS | PLAN FOR AFFORDABLE CHANGE





## This election matters



You know the status quo isn't working for you. You know it's time for change. It's your chance to demand the Ontario you want.

In this election, you can stick with the same tired ideas that you know aren't working, that make your life more expensive, and your province less fair...

... or you can pick change that puts people first.

When my father came to Canada from the former Czechoslovakia, it was a different time in Ontario. It was a time when a man like my Dad could land a job that he'd hold for most of his life. My Mother could work part-time cleaning instead of two full-time jobs. It was a time when someone like me, the daughter of an autoworker, could get an education without taking on a mountain of debt.

Every generation wants to improve life for their families.

I know I want to see a world of opportunity open up for

my son. But if we're going to do that we need change in Ontario.

Although there are some signs of recovery on the horizon, economists are warning of a long period of sluggish growth.

People have lost jobs and savings and families are feeling the squeeze, especially middle income families. After inflation is taken into account the average worker hasn't seen a raise in two decades. Most people are struggling to get by with less.

But some are doing better than ever. If you're one of Canada's top 100 CEOs you collected more pay by January 3rd at 3pm than the average person earns in a year.

You never voted for this, but it keeps happening. The unfair HST made your daily essentials like hydro, gasoline and home heating more expensive while banks and insurance companies got a tax break.

Seniors and their families are waiting longer and paying more to get the care they need while healthcare CEOs collect six-figure salaries.





Your family and friends are watching jobs vanish and paycheques shrink, while our natural resources and public money are shipped away to make profit somewhere else. This doesn't make sense. It's the wrong direction for the province and it's failing people like you.

**We won't get the change we need by sticking to a status quo that just isn't working.**

**We need change that puts you and your family first.**

**That's what our plan will do.**

We need change that makes life more affordable by taking the unfair HST off daily essentials including hydro, home heating and gasoline while shifting the tax burden onto corporations that have already gotten generous breaks.

We need change that creates jobs by processing natural resources in Ontario and by making sure public dollars support local economies and local companies.

We need change that meets our healthcare challenges by cutting wait times in emergency rooms, for home care and for long-term care.

And we need to live within our means. Your bottom line is our priority.

This is the first of a set of commitments we're making to the people of Ontario.

The plan we lay out here isn't the final word from us, and it won't fix everything overnight, but it will take some key first steps down a new path for Ontario.

Our plan takes \$7 billion that was being invested in corporate tax giveaways, CEO pay hikes and consultant contracts and invests that money in the priorities that you've told us matter to you: making life affordable and helping with household budgets, creating and protecting good jobs, rewarding job creators, and ensuring healthcare dollars are wisely spent on your needs.

A vote for New Democrats means real change.

It will put an end to the status quo that's left you and your family falling behind.

We'll be putting forward more positive ideas that will make





a real difference. Read them. Pass them along. Let us know what you think and on October 6, vote for change that will put you and your family first.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Andrea Horwath", with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Andrea Horwath  
Leader, Ontario's New Democrats

# 1. Making life affordable.

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- Take the Harmonized Sales Tax off of daily essentials.
- Protection at the pump from gas gouging.
- Freeze transit fares and expand transit options.
- Help people save for retirement.
- Get electricity prices under control.



*Change that helps people keep more money in their pockets.*



## Making life more affordable – Change that helps people keep more money in their pockets.

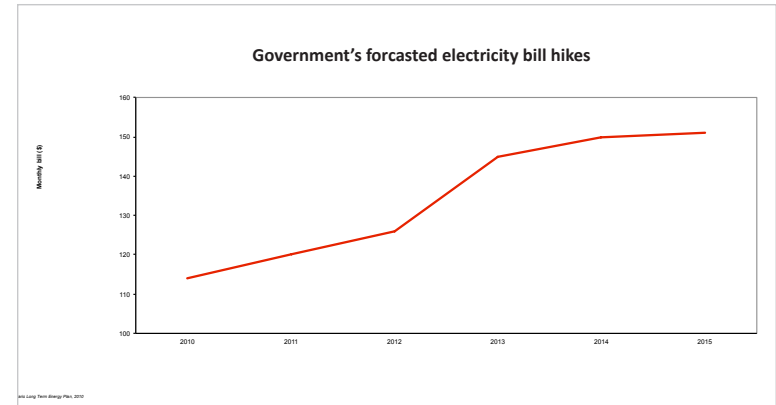
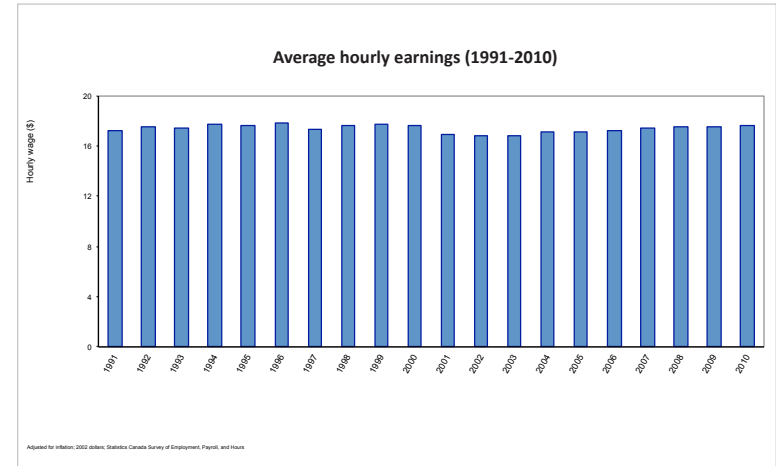
Families tell us they're feeling squeezed.

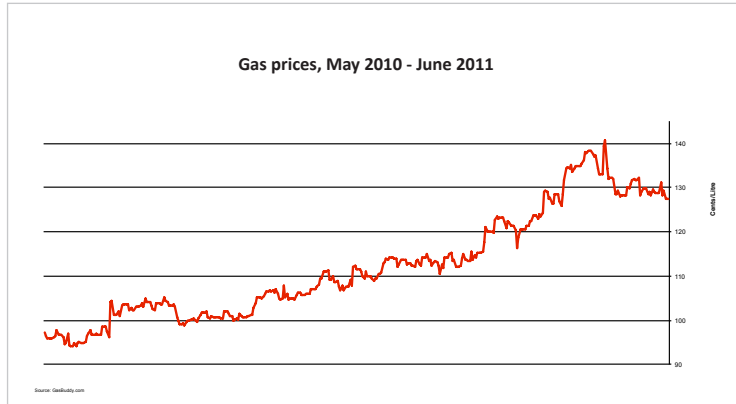
That's no surprise. In 2009 alone, real GDP contracted by 3.6%. The economic turmoil of job losses, destroyed savings, and overall pocketbook anxiety has put the squeeze on families – particularly on middle-income Ontario.

Your wages just aren't keeping up with the cost of living. Whether it's home heating, gasoline, electricity or groceries, you and your family are scrambling to make ends meet.

Your government gives corporations a tax break, but your budget gets hit with unfair taxes on essentials like electricity and home heating, while fees continue to rise on everything from healthcare to your child's education.

If Ontario's households are in good financial shape then Ontario's economy will follow.





Throughout our province's history, Ontario succeeded when everyone had a stake in prosperity.

Experts tell us that the real problem in Ontario's economy isn't corporate debt, or even government debt – it's household debt. If we want Ontario to succeed we need Ontario's **people** to do well.

We need change that makes life more affordable. Our plan has a number of straightforward, achievable ways that government can make your life less expensive. Helping household budgets helps our economy grow.

## Take the HST off daily essentials

The Harmonized Sales Tax hit struggling families at the worst possible time. Instead of making life more affordable for people struggling with the recession, it made life more expensive. It shifted more of the tax burden off large corporations like banks and insurance companies and onto household budgets.

The HST takes a big bite out of the average family budget. That's hard to cope with, but what hits hardest are new taxes on your daily household essentials.

Your electricity. Your home heating. Gas for the car. You can cut a lot from your household budget, but everyone needs to heat their home, keep the lights on and commute to work.

The HST was negotiated behind closed doors without your input, your ideas or your permission. This backroom deal has a huge impact on you and your family but no one asked you what you thought about it. We've been listening.

Scrapping the HST overnight might cause more problems than it solves but we can make life better for people. We will take the HST off essentials such as electricity and home heating. We will start removing the HST from gasoline by one percentage point a year. These are daily essentials that don't need a new tax.

*We will make your life affordable by taking the HST off electricity, home heating, and gasoline.*

The HST deal shifted \$6 billion of the tax burden onto household budgets. Our plan will give some of that money back to you. We'll make temporary input tax credit restrictions permanent. This move will ensure corporations can't write off taxes on box seats and high priced restaurant tabs and we can make tax relief for people a priority.

This is a simple, achievable step and we are committed to making it happen. We will take the HST off essential necessities and if the Harper government refuses to let it happen, we will scrap the HST altogether.

#### Taking the HST off essentials – annual savings for a typical household

INDIVIDUALS	\$130
COUPLES WITH NO CHILDREN	\$330
COUPLES WITH TWO CHILDREN	\$375
Source: Calculations using Statistics Canada Social Policy Simulation Database and Model	

### Protection at the pumps from gas gouging

There's nothing more annoying than watching gasoline prices suddenly jump just when you need to fill your car. In an ideal world, we wouldn't rely on our cars but for many Ontario families driving is something you simply need to do. Other provinces have brought in measures to protect drivers from sudden price spikes at the pump.

Gas price regulation sets a ceiling for gas prices and ensures that you know what the price will be all week. It's a practical, effective way to protect drivers from an unpleasant surprise at the pump.

We will instruct the Ontario Energy Board to set a gas price





ceiling every week and protect you at the pump.

*We will tackle price gouging at the pumps by setting a weekly cap on gas prices.*

### **Freeze transit fares and expand transit options**

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For thousands of people who can't afford to drive, and thousands more who are hoping to get out of their cars, public transit is expensive and time-consuming.

Around the world other national and state governments work with municipalities to make public transit affordable and reliable but in Ontario the commitment has been minimal and inconsistent.

We will share the cost of operating transit equally with municipalities. In exchange for this new commitment, we will tell municipalities to freeze transit fares at current levels for four years.

We will also invest in new transit projects and upgrades for public transit systems.

*We will freeze transit fares by providing municipalities with operating dollars for transit.*

## Help people save for retirement

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No matter where they work, all Ontarians should be able to retire with dignity, security and without worry.

But many Ontarians are worried about whether the money they need to retire will be there when they need it. We will improve our current pension system by strengthening the Pension Benefits Guarantee Fund.

For the two out of three Ontarians who do not have a workplace pension, we will develop an Ontario Retirement Plan to provide a defined benefit pension to people who want one.

We will also work with Jack Layton and the federal New Democrat team to push for the expansion of Canada Pension Plan benefits.

*We will push for an expanded Canada Pension Plan and develop an Ontario Retirement Plan.*

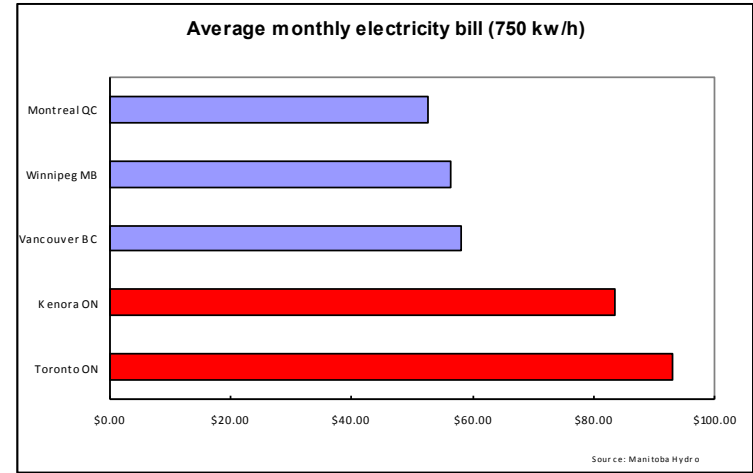


## Get electricity prices under control

In the past eight years, electricity prices have increased by 75%, and over the next 5 years they're expected to increase another 50%.

This isn't an accident. It's a direct result of years of poor planning, expensive bureaucracy, privatization and deregulation. The experiment failed and the result is a confusing mess. When you pay your electricity bill you're not just paying for power, you're covering over 11,000 six-figure salaries at five different hydro agencies and the cost of over 1,000 large-scale private power contracts. No wonder Ontario households are paying some of the highest electricity rates in Canada.

Households in provinces with publicly-owned accountable hydro systems deliver electricity at a lowest cost. That's no surprise. By providing electricity at cost, families in Manitoba and Quebec aren't stuck with the bill for private power contracts, or CEO salaries that are nineteen times higher than the average family makes in a year.



We will consolidate Ontario's electricity bureaucracies to eliminate waste and duplication.

Four years ago, the government's own review determined that merging some agencies would make sense and protect consumers. It's time to get to work. The Ontario Power Authority, Hydro One and the Independent Electricity System Operator spend millions of dollars every year duplicating work. By merging these organizations into Ontario's publicly-owned generating company we can

reduce costs and protect consumers.

We will put a hard cap on CEO compensation to bring it in line with other jurisdictions and set an example within the electricity sector about respecting ratepayers and keeping bills low.

High priced CEOs –One Is Enough!		
OPA CEO: \$573,027 a year	vs	Manitoba Hydro CEO: \$301,000 a year
Hydro One CEO: \$953,844 a year		
OPG CEO: \$1,325,119 a year		
IESO CEO: \$601,892 a year		

We are committed to building green energy. In Ontario, there will still be a role for small private producers, co-operatives and others who want to sell power back to our grid, but large-scale electricity generation must be publicly-owned, publicly accountable and affordable.

Secret contracts with private power producers are not the way we will do business. We will respect the contracts the government has already signed. We will make changes over

the next four years to ensure future large-scale generation will be publicly owned and openly accountable to ratepayers like you.

*We will end waste in our electricity system by merging agencies and capping CEO pay.*

As of today, nuclear power is required to keep Ontario’s lights on but the high cost and environmental risk should make us think twice before we build a new nuclear plant. Every nuclear plant in Ontario’s history has come in behind schedule and over budget.

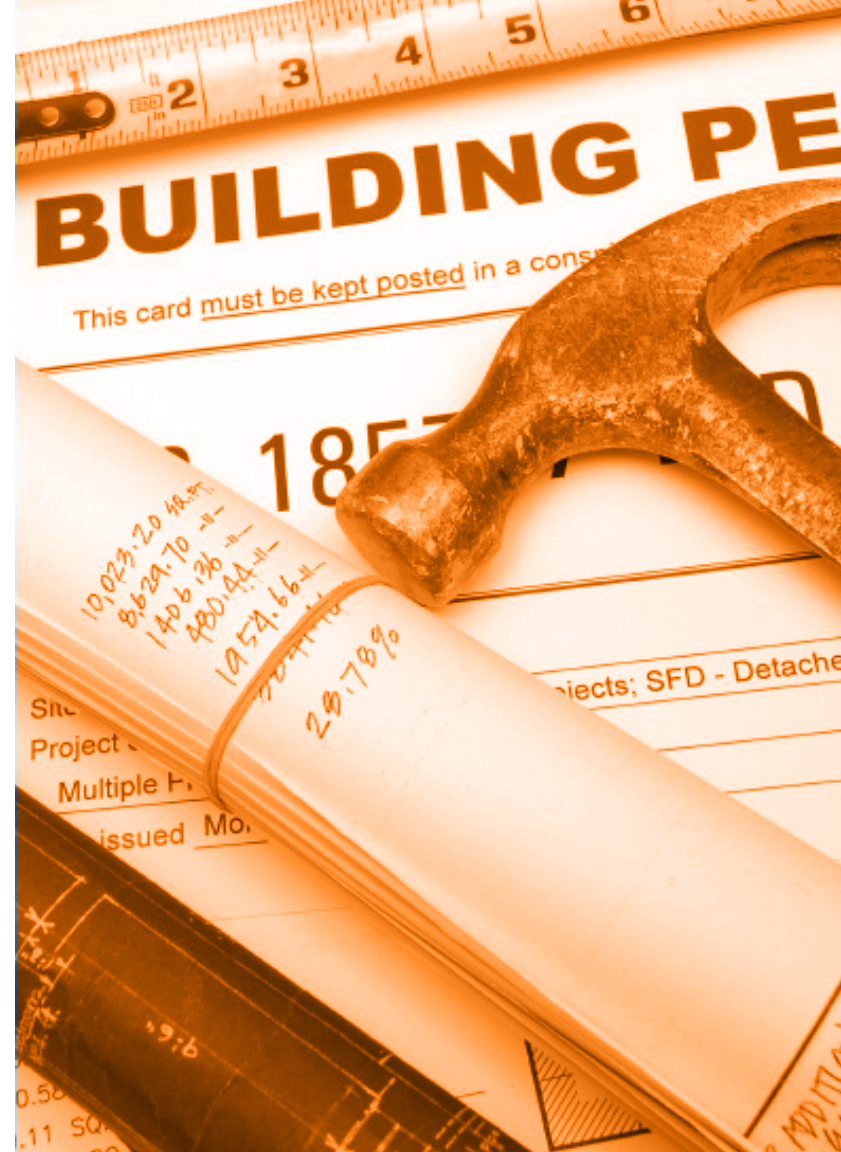
We’re still paying the debt retirement charge from the last time we built a new nuclear plant at Darlington. Other jurisdictions are learning this lesson the hard way. In New Brunswick, the Point LePreau station is three years behind schedule and \$1 billion over budget. That’s over \$1,300 for every man, woman and child in the province. Since the tragic disaster in Japan, people all over the world have been raising serious questions about nuclear power. New

environmental and safety standards will be developed and that makes an expensive plan even more pricey.

There are better ways to generate new power including conservation, energy efficiency, renewable energy and natural gas cogeneration. We will expand support for energy saving home retrofits and make environmental choices more affordable.

We will not proceed with plans to build new nuclear plants and will conduct a comprehensive environmental assessment that looks at safety and cost before we proceed with any electricity plan.

*We will help families save money and go green with funding to make energy efficient upgrades to their homes.*





# How private power costs you more.

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— *Toronto Star*, March 18, 2011

Some generators, especially in northwestern Ontario, have exploited the fact that transmission lines can only carry so much power. That's called "congestion."

A few smart operators have figured out how to anticipate when congestion is likely, and to offer to sell power at an attractive price during that time.

The bid is accepted, but when the time comes to send the power, there's no room on the transmission line. Nonetheless, the generator still receives what's called a "constrained off" payment because originally the bid had been booked.

Power importers in the northwest playing the same strategy do even better than generators. The panel figures they get paid more than three times as much as importers elsewhere in the province by collecting congestion payments.

Money for the extra payments is built into the price paid by every electricity user in the province.

Overall, the panel says market players in the northwest area of the province have scooped up 33 per cent of the congestion payments since 2002, though they account for 4 per cent of generating capacity and 10 per cent of import capacity.

## 2. Creating and protecting jobs.

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- ✚ Stop the no-strings-attached corporate tax giveaways.
- ✚ Reward job creators.
- ✚ “Buy Ontario” to build Ontario’s economy.
- ✚ Ontario’s natural resources won’t be shipped away.
- ✚ Protect people on the job.

*Change that gets people working  
to grow our economy.*



**Creating and protecting good jobs – Change that gets people working to grow our economy.**

To get Ontario’s economy back on track we need to make jobs our priority. Looking at the government’s policy, you’d be hard pressed to believe that creating and protecting jobs mattered. In Ontario today, we allow companies to export our raw resources instead of developing and processing them here. We send public money abroad to buy goods and products that could be made or grown here in Ontario. We hand out billions of dollars in tax giveaways to corporations even when they move jobs out of Ontario. This doesn’t make sense.

Job creation from 2008 peak		
	Province	Change in employment since 2008 peak (%)
Provinces that rejected HST	PEI	3.8
	Manitoba	2.3
	Saskatchewan	1.2
Provinces that embraced HST	British Columbia	0.9
	Ontario	0.4
TD Economics Provincial Employment Monitor, June 10, 2011		

For people looking for work, or worried about their jobs, Ontario is falling behind. Provinces that rejected the HST and held the line on corporate taxes in the face of a growing deficit are outpacing Ontario in job creation because they put the focus where it mattered: helping companies create jobs to build for the future. It’s people who make our province work, and it’s people who will make our economy grow. **We need change that creates and protects good jobs.**

**Stop the no-strings-attached corporate tax giveaways**

Over the last ten years Ontario’s most profitable corporations have gotten a big break. The combined federal-Ontario corporate tax rate has been reduced from 44 per cent to 25 per cent. That’s over \$20 billion worth of tax breaks. We were told these tax giveaways would create jobs but the jobs just haven’t materialized.

Corporate tax rates are just one of the factors businesses consider when investing. However, study after study shows that corporate tax cuts alone won’t create jobs. In fact,



Combined Corporate Tax Rates for Selected U.S. States and Ontario, 2010	
Location	Combined Tax Rate (%)
Michigan	38.2
New York	36.1
<b>Ontario</b>	<b>28.5</b>
Pennsylvania	37.8
Great Lakes Weighted Average	36.6
U.S. Weighted Average	36.1
Source: Ontario government	

after ten years of corporate tax giveaways, job-creating investments have actually declined.

Rather than upgrading equipment or training employees, corporations have been accumulating cash not hiring new workers.

According to Statistics Canada, Ontario’s corporate sector added \$83 billion to cash holdings over the last decade while many of those same companies issued lay-off notices.

**We will stop the no-strings-attached corporate tax giveaway.** When compared to the U.S. – our real competitors when it comes to jobs - we’re already more than competitive.

**We will ensure our corporate tax rate stays below US levels** but when our corporate tax rate is already much lower than the US we need to focus on smarter priorities.

### Reward job creators

If we want to create jobs we should reward job creators. That means providing tax relief to the companies that invest in Ontario to create good jobs. If your company is building or upgrading your operations to create good jobs in Ontario, you deserve a break on your taxes. **We will create a 10 per cent tax credit for companies that invest in buildings, machinery and equipment in Ontario** and ensure that manufacturers benefit, even when they have had a bad year. If your company is helping your staff with training you deserve a break on your taxes. **We will create a training tax credit for companies that help their staff upgrade their skills and build our economy.**

*We will replace corporate tax giveaways with programs that reward companies that create jobs.*

Small businesses employs thousands of Ontarians, including many entrepreneurs struggling to get started. We will reduce the small business tax rate to 4 per cent.

*We will help small businesses by cutting their tax rates.*

### **“Buy Ontario” to build Ontario’s economy**

Every year our government spends billions of dollars of our money on everything from transit cars to computers to meat and vegetables. It only makes sense to spend as much of that money as possible here in Ontario.

Yet time and time again, government refuses to do so. Contracts for transit cars are rewarded to companies in

Germany when they could be built in Thunder Bay. Corn is imported for use in our ethanol plants while local farmers struggle to find a market.

These short-sighted decisions cost us all when good jobs and opportunities for new value-added industry vanish. It’s time for change. **We will make it the law that Ontario’s money is spent here in Ontario to create good jobs.**

We will also protect Ontario’s interests when it comes to foreign takeovers of our key industries. Communities like Hamilton and Sudbury have suffered when key industries were bought by foreign multinationals with little commitment to the local economy.

The London Stock Exchange is hoping to take over the Toronto Exchange, a move that will undermine Toronto’s stature as a leading economic centre and hurt domestic players in Northern Ontario’s mining sector. **We will not approve the foreign takeover of the Toronto Stock Exchange.**

## Ontario's natural resources won't be shipped away

Ontario's natural resources are owned by all of us. We need to use our natural resources carefully and responsibly to build Ontario's prosperity and protect them so they're there for future generations. Minerals like copper, nickel and zinc generate great wealth for all Ontarians. We can't allow processing plants to shut down in favor of eventually shipping ore to another country. **We will amend the mining act to say resources that are mined in Ontario must be processed in Ontario.**

*We will make sure Ontario tax dollars and natural resources create jobs here.*

## Protecting people on the job

As good jobs disappear, more and more people are forced to work two and sometimes three jobs just to make ends meet. It can be a real struggle and a lot of people, desperate

to find any work, find it hard to walk away from a job. It's not fair to people in precarious situations and it's not fair to employers who play by the rules and have to compete with employers who don't.

**We will increase Employment Standards enforcement to protect people's rights on the job. We will also increase the minimum wage to \$11 this year and index it to the cost of living so that people who work full-time aren't trapped in poverty.**

People who are trying to get back into the workforce after losing their job shouldn't be penalized for it. We should be helping people to get back to work by modernizing social assistance and rewarding initiative.

**We will reduce the clawback of social assistance benefits from people with disabilities when they're moving back into a job. We will also ensure Ontario Works rates keep pace with inflation.**

In addition, we look forward to following through on the recommendations of the Commission for the Review of Social Assistance in Ontario which are expected in 2012.



# 3. Building healthcare that works for you.

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- ✎ Cut emergency room wait time in half.
- ✎ Ensure dollars are invested in frontline care.
- ✎ Scrap Local Health Integration Networks.
- ✎ Stop forcing patients to pay more.
- ✎ Meet the health needs of an aging population.
- ✎ Ensure everyone has a family doctor.
- ✎ Keep people healthy.



*Change that makes healthcare  
reliable and affordable.*



**Building healthcare that works for you – Change that makes healthcare reliable and affordable.**

One of the things that unites Canadians is the belief that the size of your wallet shouldn't affect the quality of the medical care you receive.

We invest billions of dollars into our healthcare system every year and in return we expect and deserve high-quality medical care when we need it.

But too often that isn't happening and Ontarians are left waiting for the care they need.

CEOs at our hospitals are getting six-figure raises, consultants take vacations to Japan and bill it to patients, but the frontline care your family relies on seems to take longer than ever.

There are 10,000 people on the waiting list for home care and wait times for long-term care beds have tripled.

More and more you're being asked to wait too long or pay out of pocket for the healthcare you need.

LONGER WAIT LISTS FOR HOME CARE LONG TERM CARE	
Year	Average wait for a ITC bed
2005	1 month
2011	3 1/2 months (103 days)
Source: Ontario Health Quality Council 2011 Report on Ontario's Health System	

Our healthcare system will be facing serious challenges in the years to come. We need to be smart about how we confront these challenges.

Hitting patients with user fees or forcing them to look to private healthcare isn't a solution.

We know that these fees only make it harder for you to get the care you need and, in the long-run, do not save our province money.

Short-sighted cuts to services and front-line staff won't help either, and for the same reasons.

We can control health costs. We have to start putting

patients first. If people can see a doctor or nurse practitioner regularly they can avoid medical complications that are expensive to treat as they worsen.

If seniors receive support to remain in their homes they can avoid extended stays in hospitals. If we give people a hand when they want to stay healthy we can avoid the costs that come from poor health.

**We need change that ensures health services are there when we need them, now and in the future.**

## Cut emergency room wait times in half

Emergency rooms are one of the most important parts of our healthcare system. It's where we go when we need immediate medical attention.

No one should be stuck waiting for 12 hours in an emergency room. But more and more these excruciating waits are the norm. Emergency rooms have closed in some communities and reduced hours in others.

If we rethink the way we provide care and invest smarter, we can cut down on wait times.

We will cut emergency room wait times by half. We will work closely with hospitals to address the underlying causes of backlogs and long wait times. Cutting ER wait times by half requires smarter investments.

If we enable seniors to live on their own longer, invest in home care and long-term care and open family care clinics, we can relieve pressures on hospitals so they can do their job better. And you wait less for the care you need.

*We will cut emergency room wait times by half.*

500  
*Hospital & Medical*  
← **Main Entrance**

← **EMERGENCY**

← **Medical Office Bldg.**

## Ensure dollars are invested in frontline care

We spend billions of dollars every year in our healthcare system. We expect that money to be invested providing medical care to people when they need it.

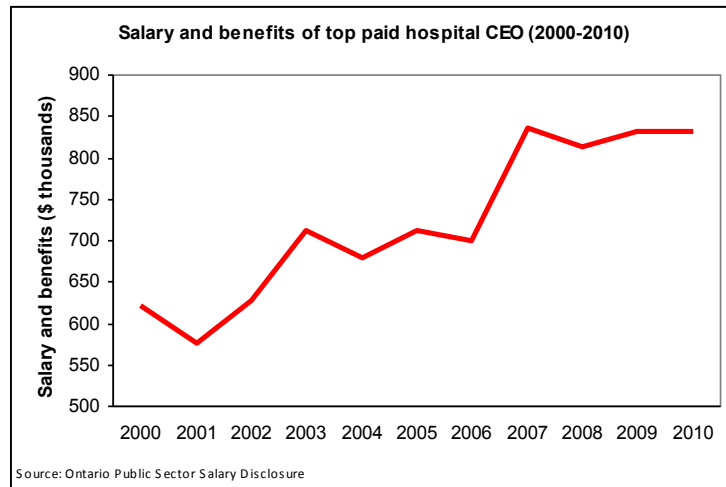
It just doesn't make sense to give hospital CEOs a six-figure pay hike while we're closing emergency rooms, or covering expenses for consultant vacations to Japan while nurses are being laid-off.

We need to send a clear message that our priority is making people healthy – not wealthy.

**We will cap public CEO compensation at twice the Premier's salary.**

That's more than seven times what the average nurse makes.

**We will crack down on consulting and consultant expenses and give the Ombudsman oversight of hospital and health spending to ensure patients are being respected.**



## Scrap Local Health Integration Networks

Local Health Integration Networks (LHINs) were supposed to bring a community voice to healthcare planning. Instead, these unelected, unaccountable bodies have forced significant changes in local healthcare services without any meaningful consultation.

An investigation by Ontario's Ombudsman found the



LHINs had even violated the law by holding illegal secret meetings to hide decision-making from the public.

**We will scrap the LHINs and replace them with effective local decision-making.**

## Stop forcing patients to pay more

In countries without a public healthcare system people often say they can't afford to get sick. That's not supposed to happen in Ontario but more and more often, it does.

Eye exams and chiropractic care were once covered by OHIP, now they're not. A stay in the hospital adds up pretty quickly once the fees are taken into account.

The cost of prescriptions keeps rising despite promises of cost reductions. These fees do not save our healthcare system money in the long-run because they stop people from seeking medical help early on, when problems would be cheaper to treat.

An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.

We can't eliminate these costs all at once but **we will start tackling the growing cost of healthcare by eliminating some of the most outrageous fees, such as those for ambulance service.** No one facing a medical emergency should be worried about whether they can afford to call an ambulance.

We will continue looking at other costs and eliminate them as we can. **We will also make healthcare costs, especially drug costs, a priority in upcoming negotiations around a new national health accord.**

*We will tackle growing healthcare costs, starting by eliminating ambulance fees.*

## Meeting the health needs of an aging population

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Thanks to our healthcare system people are living longer than ever. That's a testament to the incredible success of public healthcare but it also means that our system faces new challenges – challenges we haven't been meeting.

There are currently 4,558 patients in Ontario hospitals – mostly seniors – taking up 16 per cent of hospital beds, even though they no longer require hospital care. Providing care for these patients cost our healthcare system \$450 a day, compared to as little as \$50 a day for home care. A nursing home bed is \$130 a day.

Seniors deserve the right to remain at home, and with a little more support this could be an option for many. But instead of solutions, the problem keeps getting worse.

There are 10,000 people on the waiting list for home care and wait times for long-term care beds have tripled over 5 years.

**We will eliminate the waiting list for long-term care for those with complex medical needs.** There are currently 2,650 people in Ontario who are in desperate need of long-term care. Yet, they are often forced to languish in hospital beds while they wait for a permanent nursing home bed.

This is a burden on them and a cost our healthcare system doesn't need. We will take pressure off of our hospitals and provide the care that is required by building these new beds.

**We will help those who need healthcare services at home by funding an additional one million hours of home care, over four years, and eliminating the waiting list for home care.**

However, we won't just throw money at the problem. Under the existing privatized home care model, as much as thirty percent of home care dollars are spent administering private contracts instead of providing care. That money needs to be invested in the women and men who do the work providing support to people in need, not on private health deals.

**We will conduct a comprehensive review of home care policy with a goal of creating a new publicly owned and accountable home care system that reduces management and administration costs by 20 percent.**

We will provide support to people before they have medical problems by expanding support for seniors at home. Every year thousands of seniors end up in hospital because they encounter difficulty with their daily routine. It often wasn't a medical emergency that forced them into the hospital but a minor incident like slipping when they tried to shovel the driveway.

Every senior that can stay in their home saves our health system \$50,000 a year. **We will give seniors daily supports so they can stay in their home longer.** Help with shoveling the walk, picking up groceries and preparing meals can ensure independent living.

*We will eliminate the wait for acute long-term care beds and help seniors live comfortably at home.*



## Ensure everyone has a family doctor

900,000 Ontarians don't have a family doctor, leaving communities scrambling to deal with this shortage and people with nowhere to turn when they fall ill.

**We will address the shortage of doctors by forgiving student debt of new doctors who practice in underserved communities. This will bring 200 new doctors, over four years, to communities in desperate need of more healthcare.**

We can also relieve the pressure on family doctors and emergency rooms by supporting other health professionals, like nurse practitioners, and the creation of innovative healthcare clinics.

**We will fund 50 new family healthcare clinics that will provide round-the-clock healthcare services to an additional 250,000 people by 2015.**

At these clinics you will be able to get an appointment with your family doctor or nurse practitioner within 48 hours.



In the middle of the night, you will get the care you need.

**These new clinics will be designed to meet the needs of local communities and help ensure that every Ontarian has access to high-quality healthcare.**

*We will make sure healthcare is there when you need it with 50 new 24-hour family care clinics and a new program aimed at attracting doctors to underserved communities.*

### **Fighting obesity and keeping people healthy**

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The smartest way to spend health dollars is to not spend them at all. We can make it easier to make healthy choices and we can set a good example for kids so they develop healthy habits that will carry them throughout their lives.

We can start by providing support to new moms, ensuring mandatory physical education in secondary school

classrooms, banning advertising of junk food aimed at children and making calorie labeling on menus in large chain restaurants the law.



# 4. Living within our means.

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*Change that sets the right priorities.*



## Living within our means – practical change we can deliver on.

New Democrats realize better than most that if we are going to confront the challenges ahead we can't do so under a massive debt burden.

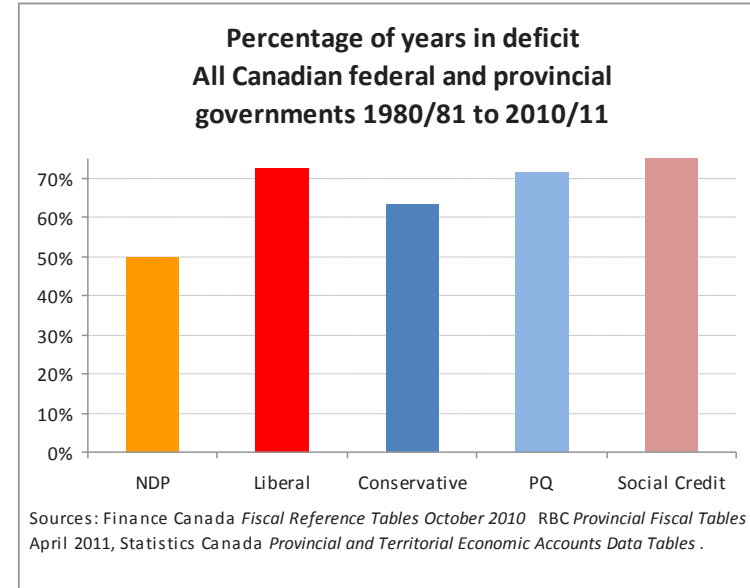
Economists have studied the federal Department of Finance's fiscal tables and found New Democratic governments have run fewer deficit budgets than any other party.

Moreover, they've run smaller deficits as a share of provincial GDP.

The deficit we're currently running was absolutely essential to protect jobs and get our economy on track.

Now we have to get to work, slowly and responsibly getting back into balance. It won't be easy but by setting priorities we can get there.

The recent e-Health scandal cost the public purse \$1 billion. The government spends about \$1 million a day on



consultants.

Public sector CEOs are receiving six figure salaries even after they're fired for not doing their job.

It's clear that our money can be better spent. It's clear we need to focus on Ontarians' priorities.

## A PLAN FOR AN AFFORDABLE CHANGE (\$ Millions)

Commitments to date	2012–13	2013–14	2014–2015	2015–2016
<b>SAVINGS &amp; REVENUES</b>				
Restore general corporate tax rate	1365	1650	1750	1850
Make temporary Input Tax Credit restrictions permanent	-	-	-	215
Cut consultants by half	125	125	125	125
Hard Cap on executive salaries & severances	20	20	20	20
Cut waste & free funds for priorities with an expenditure management review	250	275	300	325
20% reduction in home care administrative budget	-	25	75	100
<b>TOTAL SAVINGS &amp; REVENUES</b>	<b>1760</b>	<b>2095</b>	<b>2270</b>	<b>2635</b>
<b>OUR PRIORITIES</b>				
Begin removing the HST from gasoline (1% per year)	125	250	375	500
Take the HST off home heating (natural gas and heating oil)	350	350	350	350
Maintain Ontario Clean Energy Benefit; after expiry permanently take HST off hydro	-	-	-	200
Set a weekly cap on gas prices and stop gas gouging	2	2	2	2
Freeze transit fares and restore 50% provincial funding for transit operating costs	90	185	280	375

Replace corporate tax cuts				
• With investment tax credit and training tax credit	350	350	350	350
• Maintain manufacturer/processor CIT rate	-	-	-	-
• Cut small business tax rate from 4.5% to 4%	90	90	90	90
Strengthening employment standards enforcement	3	3	3	3
Reduce clawback for ODSP recipients and ensure social assistance rates keep pace with inflation	85	25	25	25
Ban ambulance fees	30	30	30	30
Eliminate wait for acute LTC beds	50	70	90	110
Tackle wait for homecare	20	25	30	35
50 new family health care clinics	75	95	115	135
Expanded support for seniors and their families to stay at home	25	40	70	90
Supporting new moms	2	3	3	3
Health Promotion plan	2	2	2	2
Forgiving student debt for new doctors in underserved communities	4	4	4	4
<b>TOTAL PRIORITIES</b>	<b>1303</b>	<b>1524</b>	<b>1819</b>	<b>2304</b>
REMAINING FUNDS	457	571	451	331

*We will save nearly \$400 million annually by cutting high-priced consultants, capping public sector CEO salaries, and conducting an expenditure review.*

The plan we lay out here matches the current government goal of achieving a balanced budget by 2017 but we set very different priorities than the current government plan. We will not proceed with corporate tax cuts and the harmonized sales tax plan as it currently stands. We will also conduct an expenditure management review to find savings within the current fiscal framework. We have set a modest savings goal but have already identified some areas where savings can be found: our cap on CEO salaries will save \$80 million over the next four years, reducing our reliance on consultants will save an estimated \$500 million over the same time period.

**Only by setting different priorities can we afford an Ontario that puts people first.**

AV  
"What we desire  
To this end  
world's work  
- J.S. W





